

**Marine Corps League
Baltimore Detachment #565**



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BALTIMORE

GUNG HO



*November - December 2017 * Vol. 21, No. 6 * Stuart Blair Editor*

*In Memoriam of Marine Angelo A. Cenci * 7 October 2017 / Marine John E. Burke * 8 October 2017*

**Bridge Dedication Ceremony
Honors Fallen Marine**

21 October

A ceremony was presented in honor of USMC Captain Jesse Melton III. Capt. Melton is a Randallstown native who was killed in Afghanistan on Sept. 9, 2008. Prior to being killed in Afghanistan, he had previously served a tour in Iraq and two tours in Okinawa. Capt. Melton comes from a family of service, his sister was a commissioned officer in the Army, his cousin was killed in Vietnam and other family members had served their country. The Park Heights Bridge in Baltimore County, which crosses I-695 has been dedicated in memory and in honor of Capt. Melton.

Many local Marine Corps League members have had the honor of association with his mother, Janice Chance, president of the Maryland/Delaware Gold Star Mothers. If you have the opportunity to meet Mrs. Chance, you will immediately recognize there is something special about this lady. She relies on her deep religious faith to move forward with her life. The ceremony was held at the Colonial Baptist Church in Randallstown.

Over 200 people attended the ceremony. In addition to the family and friends who attended were the Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, Four-Star Gen. Robert B. Neller, Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger, Deputy Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Retired Col. Robert Finn and numerous other military members and elected state and county officials.

Representing the Marine Corps League were Marines from the Baltimore Det., Cpl Pete Arnold Det., and Carroll County Det.



CMC 242nd Birthday Message

Seventy-Five years ago today, after months of fighting at Henderson Field and along Edson's Ridge, Marines on Guadalcanal spent the night of 10 November 1942 planning and preparing. Although the Battle of Guadalcanal would continue for three more months, the plans laid on our Corps' most sacred day became integral to the amphibious campaigns that followed. Success at Guadalcanal proved to be the turning point that ultimately paved the way for Allied victory in the Pacific. Those warriors defended their positions in brutal conditions against a formidable enemy – and triumphed. Through every major conflict our Nation has seen since the Revolution, Marines performed their duty with utmost courage, devotion, and raw determination. Their valiant deeds in the face of overwhelming challenges give us confidence and inspire us to meet the trials of today. As we pause to celebrate the birth of our Corps this year, we honor the legacy that was passed down to us and we recommit ourselves to carrying those traditions into the future.

This November 10th marks 242 years of warfighting excellence. At places like Trenton, Tripoli, Chapultepec, Belleau Wood, Guadalcanal, Chosin, Khe Sahn, Fallujah, Sangin, and so many others, Marines have fought with an inner spirit – a spirit that bonds us, binds us together as a cohesive team. It's that intangible spirit that has formed the foundation of our warfighting reputation for the past 242 years. Now it's our responsibility to ensure we honor and carry on that legacy. The American people expect a Corps of men and women who are committed, selfless, willing to sacrifice, who epitomize honor, courage, commitment, virtue, and character. We owe our Nation and our predecessors no less.

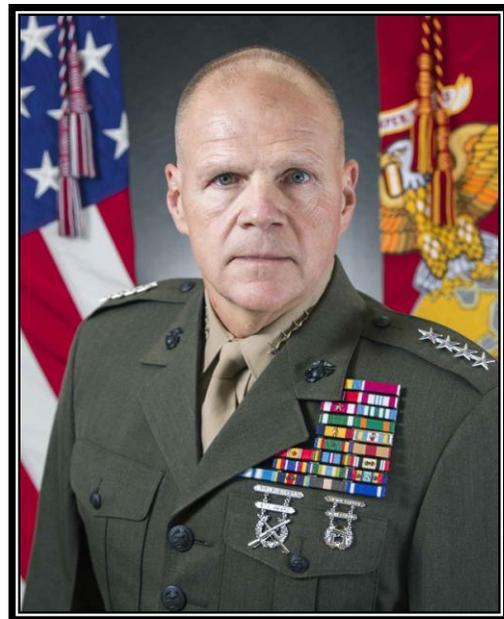
Today, as we celebrate our 242nd birthday, we must remember who we are, where we came from, and why we're here. We must remember the past, honor those who are no longer with us, focus on today's battles, and get ready for tomorrow. We can and will prevail as we always have, in any clime and place.

But we must prevail together, united by the unyielding spirit in each of us that makes our Corps unique – that willingness to put our Corps and fellow Marines ahead of ourselves. Victory in battle comes through the integrated efforts of many – teamwork. We value the sacrifices and contributions of every Marine and Sailor, as well as our family members without whose support we would not be able to accomplish our mission. And we remain committed to being our Nation's Expeditionary Force in Readiness that sets the standard for honor, discipline, and courage. I am proud of each and every one of you. Happy Birthday, Marines!

Semper Fidelis,



Robert B. Neller
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps



Commandant's Message

Greetings Marines,

I hope everyone had a good summer and some great vacations, and now are settling in for some Fall and Winter fun. These past months have been rewarding as I participated in conducting Bingo games at the V.A. Hospital along with the Sr Vice and Jr Vice. The patients have been very enthusiastic and grateful for our visits on the first Tuesday of each month. We are still looking for other members to join us as their schedules permit.

I also became a member of the detachment rifle team and attended the Dept. of PA Marine Corps League Service Rifle Match. I scored higher than expected surprising myself. Ray Vaughn, Captain of the team will be reporting how the team did overall.

I along with Stuart Blair (MCL National Boys Scout liaison) presented the Marine Corps League "Good Citizenship Award" to Eagle Scouts Connor Tudja Troop 26 and Benjamin Zito, Troop 247, with Stuart Blair and Howard Koontz presenting the award to Eagle Scout Isaac Cole, also Troop 26, at their Court of Honor, all located in Parkville MD.

Marines Stuart Blair, Ray Vaughn and Earl Ruff attended the Baltimore County the Power of Age Expo in Oct. at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium Md. We had a table set up in the Veterans Muster area which was dedicated to providing information and resources to veteran attendees. We were able to talk with many Marine veterans, as well as Navy, Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard. We were also able to network with members of other veteran organizations, discussing what is happening in the world of veterans and exchanging ideas and information on events that are taking place for veterans. My highlight was getting to meet and talk with Mr. Claude David, a Montford Point Marine (1942 - 1945).

I'm looking forward to the upcoming months activity, In November there will be the Marine Corps Birthday, the Veterans Day Ceremony to be held at Latrobe Memorial Park In December there will be the Toys for Tots drive and the Detachment Christmas party. I'm looking to see as many as possible attend.

Commandant's Joke:

Most Marines have a grizzly bear in their room ...
the bear isn't dead; it's just afraid to move

S/F,
Earl Ruff, Jr.,
Commandant

Fallen Heroes Families Honored

25 October -

Over 34 years, the Knights of Columbus, Cardinal Gibbons Council has honored Fallen Heroes, Public Safety men and women, This year the organization honored the military families of their Fallen Heroes who have given the ultimate sacrifice.

At the event, the families of Army SSgt. Mark deAlenar, Sgt. Eric Houck, Navy Specialist 1st Class Xavier Martin and Marine William Kundrat were honored. Along with poetic acknowledgement of each branch of service, gifts of recognition were presented to the families.

Guest speaker Janice Chance President Gold Star Mothers Maryland Chapter gave a brief talk on the Gold Star Mothers with the history of her son Capt. Jesse Melton III who gave the ultimate and its meaning for carrying on her son's legacy.

In attendance were Marine Corps League members representing the Baltimore Detachment, Cpl Pete Arnold Detachment, and the Dept. of Maryland.



Marines Ray Vaughn JVC, Stuart Blair PDC, and Earl Ruff, Det, Cmdt host Marine Corps League Booth @ Veterans Muster, Dept. of Aging Senior Expo

Sr. Vice Commandant's Message

Greetings,

It's that time of the year again and we are excited about being able to again put smiles on the faces of children. The Toys for Tots Program officially started on October 1, 2017. We have placed boxes in ten Five Below Stores and we have plans to put them at other locations. Letters were sent to companies in the Fort Avenue area and some other areas in Baltimore but as of this date, I have not yet heard from any of the companies but it is possible that they may decide to make a monetary donation to our project. Plans will be made to set-up a table at the Shoppers on Smith Avenue where we will be able to give out literature on our Detachment, recruit and ask for donations to our Toys for Tots Program. Anyone who is interested in donating some time, please call me. If you have an area in your neighborhood, please let me know and maybe we can set-up a table in your respective area; please contact me if you have an area. Our goal is 400 toys and \$400.00 but hopefully we will surpass that amount. Even though the Senior Vice Commandant is the Chairman, the project cannot be successful without the help of the Detachment Members and their family and friends. However, you can make a monetary donation in case you are not available to donate your time. The Toys for Tots warehouse will be located on Seton Drive again this year but as of this date, I have not yet obtained the deadline for reporting the toys but it should be available by the next issue.

We are still holding Bingo games on the first Tuesday of each month and if anyone is interested in participating, your assistance will be greatly appreciated. As you may already know, we are still parking at areas other than the VA. However, patients will be able to park in the VA facility soon, if that has not already happened. All of the VA facilities are still looking for volunteers.

Currently, I am working on a special project which involves making red, white and blue Afghans to give to patients at Loch Raven on Valentine's Day 2018. If you are interested in making an afghan or donating yarn, either will be greatly appreciated so let me know by calling 410-736-9673. Also, if you want to go to the hospital on Valentine's Day to present them to the patients, we would be happy to have you participate.

The next VAVS meeting will be held a Perryville so that we will be able to see what has been done to upgrade the facility and we will be given a tour of the museum. Even though there are several projects in place, our first priority is our Toys for Tots Program.

Respectfully submitted,
Marian C. James,
*SVC * Toys for Tots Chairperson*

Jr. Vice Commandant's Message

Greetings,

There's something about being a Marine, that throughout all periods of service, a bond forms. It's a "camaraderie", a solid connection just for sharing that eagle, globe and anchor. At this year's rifle match, our associate member on the team had a rifle that didn't meet service rifle profiles. When we mentioned it, the night before the match, one of the Pennsylvania Marines instantly offered his rifle and ammo, so our new guy, James Brown, could do the match, just pay for the ammo. How many sports do that, for the other guy, lending his competition tools, his rifle even, so you could go against him? That's the jarhead mentality, "Here you go, give it your best shot, buddy".

Marines being Marines is just the way we are. When you're talking to a prospective member, let that thought turn into inviting them down to a meeting or one of the memorial services that we do. It brings back old memories, from year's past, in the Corps. You may have had some bad times but were always surrounded by good guys, friends you could trust, out in town or in the field; another Marine had your back. Nothing has changed. When you see someone sporting a Corps cap or pin, don't just say "Semper Fi", add an invite, to a meeting or just hang out at the museum, sip a brew, like back in the day, NCO club, at the Fort. Remember, we started in Tun's Tavern. It may lead to some Marine's sense of camaraderie coming back, still got a lot in common and still on a mission. "Not as lean, not as mean but still Marine Corps Green".

Semper Fi,
Ray Vaughn, JVC

Balto Detachment Rifle Team _____ Competes at MCL PA Rifle Match

The Detachment Rifle Team participated in the 2017 Pennsylvania MCL Match, at Reade Range in Altoona, Pa., on 9, 10 Sept. 2017. For an almost all new team, we did fairly well. John Merritt shot a 171, Earl Ruff shot 170, Ray Vaughn shot 145 and James Brown shot a 105. Scores not as good as last year but with only 60 shooters in the match instead of the usual 200, it is possible that we still had a good enough scores to earn a team or individual plaques. Looking forward to next year and hopefully we will have full 5 man team. Any detachment members with an interest are welcome to join us next year.



Chaplain's Corner

The expression "just have faith, it will work out" is used by people to encourage and comfort someone facing serious problems or stressful situations. But just what is faith?

Faith is trust, assurance and confidence in God. Living faith is shown by service and obedience to God. God will increase our faith if we fervently ask and draw close to Him.

Semper Fi Prayer Circle

Taps

Angelo A. Cenci, Life Member, was called by the Supreme Commandant on 7 October 2017, and John E. Burke reported to the Supreme Commandant on 8 October 2017. May Angelo and John rest in peace. Blessings and Prayers to each Marine and their families. May each family be able to grieve so as to gain peace and acceptance.

Sick / Distressed

Visited **Bill Wheeler** on several occasions. Jack visited. John Davis and Mike Simms called Bill. At last visit (end of Sept), he talked of a hope for discharge. Awake, alert and pleasant. He patiently waits healing. Prayed together. Jack and yours truly spoke with **Bobbie Hawkins** on several occasions. She was visited at Keswick on the 14th. In pain after surgery. She was released to home care on or about September 16. Her address at home is 1702 Wayne Avenue, Parkville 21234. phone 410-207-7464. Called on 9/25 and left msg. 8 inch scar at C3 and above. Rods inserted. She fractured her neck in a fall climbing steps at an elementary school of her grandson. She was transported to Franklin Square which transferred her to UM's Shock Trauma. She is taking pain medication, the pain resulting from the effects of surgery, it appears. She is in good spirits. Our Chief of Staff, **Jack Colleran** was admitted to UM Baltimore Washington Medical Center. Major surgery performed. (Intestine). Detachment members called and visited. Flower sent. When visiting Jack, he observed to be in distress (coughing). A tube had just been removed. Was released, then required to return (bleeding), then released again. **John Davis** was called. Please pray for all of the above as well as for continued healing to **Judith Hoffman** and **Bill Moxley** (frequently visited by Sr. Vice M. James), and others in distress.

Through intervention of Paul Taylor (who reported via E-Mail), several attended the burial service of Marine **William Edward Bowman** at the Veterans Cemetery in Crownsville on September 7th. He was not a member of the Detachment or any known Detachment. It was believed that no one would be present since the newspaper notice identified no family. (Family and a Chaplain were present, after all). Thanks, Paul for your attentiveness and Esprit de Corps and concern that no one would be present! The family and I were appreciative.

*If you learn of any one in distress, or any update to the status of anyone reported, let me know please.
George Adams, 443-935-3185. If no answer, leave a message and the call will be returned. If you do not want your status reported, please let me know.*

Values of Meaning Veterans Day

Submitted by: S. Blair

The values that have made our country the greatest nation on earth are unchanging: The understanding that liberty is priceless; the belief that the might of our military is capable of tackling any obstacle; the idea that we all have a personal responsibility to help not only ourselves but our fellow man.

Our veterans' strength is inspired by these timeless virtues. We believe that the men and women of the military represent our nation's very best, and they have given us all an example to follow. That's why we've made it our mission to help veterans in the next phase of their mission, and take their next steps forward with constant support, therapy, and rehabilitation.

Today, we are proud to stand with those who have fought to not only preserve these values for generations to come—but also to show us what it means to live by them every day.

THANK YOU _____

*I want to thank you all for
your prayers, visits, calls,
cards and flowers. It means a
lot to know others are thinking
and concerned about you.
It all has been big help to me.*

Many, many thanks

Jack



Maryland Veterans Commission

On Tuesday 17 October the Maryland Veterans Commission held their quarterly meeting hosted by *The American Legion Post #39, BelAir, MD*. Twenty Commissioners, representing veteran organizations of Maryland were in attendance. Representing the Marine Corps League was Commissioner Stuart Blair, PDC and Bernadine Blair, MCLA DM PP.

The following was presented:

- *Introduction of four new commissioners with presentation of resume from each commissioner*
- *MDVA Deputy Secretary Robert Flynn update on VA Programs / Projects*
 - * *Rosewood property prime location for second Veterans Home after elimination of other properties*
 - * *Veterans Cemeteries Changes (Details page 7)*
 - * *Legislative issues discussed*
 - * *Veterans ID card Application*
- *National Desert Storm War Memorial Presentation Project Brief next column*
- *Carroll County VA Commission programs update*
- *Veterans Day Ceremonies Schedule – commissioners participation*
Korean War Memorial NOT SCHEDULED

Next Meeting: Tuesday 16 January 2018
HUD, 100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD.

S/F,
Stuart Blair
Commissioner, MCL
Maryland Veterans Commission

National Desert Storm Memorial Project

In 1990-91 a coalition of 34 countries from five continents, was assembled and led by the U.S. Their mission was to liberate the peaceful country of Kuwait after a brutal, murderous, seven-month Iraqi occupation. Amidst extreme uncertainty and dire predictions of mass casualties, Kuwait was liberated on 26 February 1991. No one could have predicted the rapid and resounding success of Operation Desert Storm or believed it was even possible. It stands today as one of the United States' most successful military operations ever undertaken. As President George H.W. Bush stated before a joint session of Congress in March of 1991, "*We set out to confront an enemy abroad and in the process transformed a nation at home.*" He also stated, "*Operation Desert Storm will FOREVER pass the test of time as an important, lasting victory. A victory for Kuwait, our coalition partners, our brave American Service men and women, and for what is right, just, and moral.*"

Despite its successful outcome, over 600,000 Americans served with close to 400 of them having made the ultimate sacrifice. Their service and sacrifice should be forever remembered for future generations of Americans and global citizens. The sole mission of the National Desert Storm War Memorial Association is to make sure that the memory of Desert Storm and all who served and died are remembered through the construction of the National Desert Storm War Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The Memorial

In March 2017, President Trump signed into law the bill authorizing a memorial to be built on an Area-1 location, near the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Although the final plans must still be approved by the National Park Service via the necessary 24-step process, the proposed memorial would be designed in the shape of a left hook — paying tribute to the bold and innovative strategic approach that shortened the war and saved many American and coalition lives.

We Need Your Help

This is a project of the American people! Although approved by Congress and signed in to law by President Trump, the memorial will be built entirely through private donations.

MORE INFORMATION

* **CONTACT: STUART BLAIR**

MDVA Cemetery Program Changes

As of October 31, 2017 the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, Cemetery Program will implement the following changes to policy and interment costs for all five (5) Maryland State Veterans Cemeteries:

- **Burial Costs:** The opening/closing cost will be \$762.00 for all eligible dependents of the veteran for casketed or cremated interment. Please note that veteran interments will continue to be at **no** cost for burial.
- **Disinterment Costs:** Disinterment cost is \$762.00 for casketed or cremated veteran and dependent's remains.
- **Liner Costs:** The liner cost for eligible dependents is now included in the cost of burial. A liner is provided to the veteran at no cost.
- **Check Policy:** The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs cemeteries will now only require one check for Burial:

As a reminder we only accept

- Funeral home business check
- Cashier's check
- Money order

Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs staff is **not** allowed to accept **cash** or **personal checks**. All checks will be made payable to: **Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs** prior to interment.

MARYLAND DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL PROGRAMS
1122 SUNRISE BEACH ROAD
CROWNSVILLE, MARYLAND 21032
OFFICE: 410-923-6981 • FAX: 410-987-3920
ctpiscitelli@verizon.net

Detachment Home Dispatch

Detachment Home Maintenance

Thanks and much appreciation goes to Marine Milt Hazard for donating and delivering all the new chairs for the 1st floor hall. The replaced chairs were given to an American Legion Post. The contact was made by Marine Earl Ruff, who also arranged for their delivery to the Post.

General paint touching-up to the East wall on the 1st floor was done by Marine Ernie Disney, who also applied the finish coat of paint to the newly installed display boards.

The arrangement and installation of the plaques on the display boards was accomplished by Jeanne Davis (Pat's wife).

Estimates are being obtained from Roofing Companies to provide: remedies for our various leak problems, installation of shield covering material on the enclosed stairway to the roof tower, removal of the siren and its structure, and correction of rain gutter problems at the roof edge on the West side of the building.

A WiFi system (that is completely separate and independent from our computer systems) has been installed in the building. This is being cheered by our renters and will be a big plus in renting the hall. Thanks go to our Facilities Director Marine Diamond Kimos for donating it and having it installed.

Arrangements are being made to have the carpeting on the 1st floor cleaned. (Everyone must be careful when moving tables to lift them and lower them. Do not drag them.) Further carpet repair has reached the end of being practical. The carpeting is near being unsightly and shabby and doesn't bode well for renting the hall.

Baltimore Detachment Hall Rental

The hall rental is our main source of income for the Detachment Home. Keep promoting the hall rental. Information call Diamond Kimos @ 443-627-3487 or Chuck Hilton @ 410-547-7699

Military Order of the Devil Dogs

*The Fun and Honor Society
of the Marine Corps League*



Woof woof,

There is not a lot happening in Dogdum at this time, however, it is not a time to lie down and scratch your fleas. The League's Toys for Tots campaign is getting into full swing. Our coordinator, Marine James, needs all the help she can get. See her to find out how you can be a big part of this meaningful program.

For all Pups and DDs, now is the time to start preparing for your next advancement. Get the requirements done early and be ready. They include two Pound Growls if you plan on advancing to DD at the Grand Growl in Ocean City. If you plan on advancing to PDD next August in Buffalo, New York, you must attend two Pack Growls prior to that time.

The next Pack Growl will be on 18 November in Frederick. With the next Pound 204 Growl on 10 December at VFW Post 160 in Glen Burnie.

Remember: It is an honor to be a Devil Dog!

*Woof woof,
PDD Paul Taylor
Dog Robber*

Our Purpose . . .

Promotes good fellowship amongst the members of different Marine Corps League Detachments. The Order provides amusement and entertainment at all gatherings of the League, when and where advisable, preserves and strengthens the principles and ideals of the League, and maintains true allegiance to the United States of America and its Constitution and laws. It fosters and extends American institutions of freedom and defends America against all enemies foreign and domestic. The Order is also active in raising funds for children's hospitals, and associated charities.

Auxiliary

*Reaching Further . . .
. . . Touching More*



Greetings,

The good news is "the cookbook is finished," all 152 recipes from our members, families and friends. The draft has been submitted to the publisher and if there are no significant errors will be printed in time to give as Christmas gifts. We will be asking for a \$10 donation for each book. These funds will help us to sponsor our Little Angel Program and other projects throughout the year.

Our project for October and November is the purchase of a tree at the Festival of Trees to decorate with the Marine Corps theme. Our member, Lucy Kelly and league member Joe Kelly buy the tree, set it up, put on all the lights, and topper. The decorations are made by our auxiliary and reflect the activities of the Marine Corps. At the Festival of Trees each tree is auctioned off for the benefit of the Kennedy Krieger Institute for Disabled Children. This year it will be held November 25 to 27 at the Timonium fairgrounds. Go to the festival and check out our tree.

Christmas is coming soon and we look forward to our potluck dinner meeting and donating to Toys for Tots.

*God bless America,
Joan Hansen,
President*

To contact the Baltimore MCL Auxiliary Unit
EMAIL mcl565aux@gmail.com

Detachment Programs

Marine Family Assistance

The Baltimore Detachment's "Marine Family Assistance Program emphasis is providing assistance to Marine families in our area, specifically the Marines of 4th CEB.

Scholarships

Fundraiser

New pocket calendars will be coming out this month. If you have not received a pocket calendar in the past and would like one or two please let me know along with your correct address & phone if you like. You who have been receiving them and would like more than one please let me know. You can e-mail to: mclbaltimore@hotmail.com or call Monday, Wednesday or Saturday from 0900 – 1230.

All contributions are used for The Scholarship Fund Francis Scott Key School each year.
THANK YOU Jack

Detachment Member Assist Green St. VA Hospital Bingo

Pick Three Lottery Calendar Fundraiser

The proceeds from this are used for assistance to a detachment Marine or family member in need and the Baltimore Green St. VA Medical Center Project

2017 Pick Three Calendar Monthly Winners

AUGUST

08/01	George L. Kesselring	#712	\$25.00
08/04	Vernon L. Shiflett	#433	\$25.00
08/07	Brandon Hilton	#309	\$25.00
08/10	William Shea	#274	\$25.00**
08/12	Joey Clawson	#034	\$25.00
08/13	Michael Hahn	#125	\$25.00
08/14	Brian & Stacy Parsons	#710	\$25.00
08/16	Trudy Smith	#887	\$25.00
08/18	James L. Davis	#590	\$25.00
08/23	Vernon L. Shiflett	#433	\$25.00

Balance in the fund at the end of August \$2,795.00

SEPTEMBER

09/02	Michelle Ennes	#278	\$25.00
09/15	Paul Taylor	#963	\$25.00
09/20	Doreen Smith	#811	\$25.00
09/21	John Cooper	#262	\$25.00

Balance in the fund at the end of September \$2,695.00

Noteworthy

From the Halls of Montezuma

On a recent trip to Mexico, Howard Koontz visited Chapultepec Castle, Halls of Montezuma. Howard was overwhelmed by the immense quantity and quality of the artifacts of the U S Marine Corps items of involvement in the 1836 war here. Howard managed to take away photos / prints of these artifacts.

At the 27 October Baltimore Det. Meeting, Howard made a presentation of the prints and donated them to our museum

Baltimore Detachment Home Anniversary

As of 27 October 2017, the MCL Baltimore Detachment has occupied #17 House for 23 years. 27 October 1994

Members Birthdays

We would like to wish the following Marines a "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" and many more:

NOVEMBER – BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Joseph J. Kelly, Carroll F. Dixon, Jr., Raymond A. Chatary, Sr., Joseph Schvimmer, Judith A. Hoffman, Tony N. Boston, Michael J. Piechocki, William L. Priest, John H. Acton, and Darrel L. Oxyer

DECEMBER – BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Joseph F. Alder, Howard E. Scott, John M. Davis, Sr., Harry R. Carroll, Robert T. Cianelli, Larry R. Smith, Marian C. James, Aleksandras Radzius, John J. Merritt III and Ryan V. Bowerman.

Marines, if you had a birthday this month and your name did not appear, please let me know.

**Stuart Blair, 410-665-6440,
Email: thistleman@verizon.net**

Marine Corps History Question of the Month

In each month's "GUNG HO" we will feature a question about U.S. Marine Corps history. The question will test your knowledge of well known facts of Marine Corps existence.

The answer to each question will be published in the following month's issue.

Answer to September / October Question

In October 1997, the first African-American female colonel in the Marine Corps was promoted to that rank during a ceremony at MCAS Cherry Point, North Carolina. A native of Columbus, Ohio, made Marine Corps history when she achieved the rank of colonel. She was serving as Special Projects Officer, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing at the time of her promotion. Who is she ?

Gilda A. Jackson

November / December Question

An expeditionary fire base in Afghanistan built by the United States Marine Corps. It is located off Route 605 in Nawa-I-Barakzayi District of Helmand Province. It was originally built by the 3d Battalion, 11th Marines in 2009 for Operation Strike of the Sword. What is the name of this Marine Corps Base ?

- a) PB Jaker
- b) Fiddler's Green
- c) Camp Leatherneck
- d) FOB Geronimo



Marines in Afghanistan

History's Timeline

November 9, 1989 - The Berlin Wall was opened up after standing for 28 years as a symbol of the Cold War. The 27.9 mile wall had been constructed in 1961.

November 11, 1918 - At 5 a.m., in Marshal Foch's railway car in the Forest of Compiègne, the Armistice between the Allied and Central Powers was signed, silencing the guns of World War I effective at 11 a.m. – the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. In many places in Europe, a moment of silence in memory of the millions of fallen soldiers is still observed.

November 11, 1992 - The Church of England voted to allow women to become priests.

November 14, 1994 - The first paying passengers traveled on the new rail service through the Channel Tunnel linking England and France.

November 19-20, 1990 - The Cold War came to an end during a summit in Paris as leaders of NATO and the Warsaw Pact signed a Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe, vastly reducing their military arsenals.

December 1, 1990 - England was connected to mainland Europe for the first time since the Ice Age as engineers digging a railway tunnel under the English Channel broke through the last rock layer.

December 2, 1982 - The first permanent artificial heart was implanted in 61-year-old Barney C. Clark by Dr. William De Vries at the University of Utah Medical Center in Salt Lake City. Clark, who was near death at the time of the operation, survived 112 days after the implantation.

December 8, 1991 - The USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) ceased to exist, as the leaders of Russia, Byelorussia and the Ukraine signed an agreement creating the Commonwealth of Independent States. The remaining republics of the former USSR, with the exception of Georgia, joined the new Commonwealth.

December 13, 1991 - North and South Korea signed a treaty of reconciliation and nonaggression which also formally ended the Korean War, although actual fighting had ceased in 1953.

Marine Corps Humor

"You're Not A Marine"

A man is driving down the road and breaks down near a U.S. Marine Corps base.

He goes to the front gate, and says to the sentry, "My car broke down. Do you think I could stay the night?"

To his surprise, the Marines accept him enthusiastically. They feed him at the officer's club, they fix his car at the motor pool, and they even allow him to sleep in the VIP quarters.

But, as the man tries to fall asleep that night, he hears a strange sound. All through the night, he hears this sound.

The next morning, he asks the Marines what the sound was, but they say, "We can't tell you. You're not a Marine."

The man is disappointed but thanks them anyway and goes about his merry way.

Some years later, the same man breaks down in front of the same Marine Corps base. Again the Marines accept him enthusiastically, fix his car, and allows him to stay in the VIP quarters.

That night, he hears the exact same strange noise that he had heard years earlier.

The next morning, he asks what it is, but the Marines reply, "We can't tell you."

MCL Dept. of Maryland Fall Meeting

The Department of Maryland, Marine Corps League's next quarterly meeting will be hosted by the Shangri-la Detachment on Saturday, 18 November at Elks Lodge #684, 289 Willowdale Drive, Frederick, MD.

Directions

From east on I-70, merge onto Md 15 north toward Gettysburg; turn right onto Exit 31B (West Patrick Street), stay in right lane and continue to Willowdale Drive (Shell station on corner). Follow to end of Willowdale; Lodge is on your left.

United States Marine Corps Birthday Party

Host: MCL Baltimore Detachment

Date: Friday 10 November

Time: 1900

**Location: #17 Fire House
1426 East Fort Avenue**

No Cost

Pot Luck

**Cake Cutting Ceremony Scheduled
Music**

*** Guests Invited**

Mcl Baltimore Detachment

Christmas Party

Date: Friday 15 December

Time: 1930

**Location: #17 Fire House
1426 Ease Fort Avenue**

Pot Luck

**COST: One New Toy
"TOYS FOR TOTS"**

*** Guests Invited**

BALTIMORE
GUNG HO

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
BALTIMORE DETACHMENT

1426 East Fort Avenue (#17 Fire House)
Baltimore, Maryland 21230-5247

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“To observe a Marine is inspirational, to be a Marine is exceptional.”

Our Values

Honor *This is the bedrock of our character. It is the quality that empowers Marines to exemplify the ultimate in ethical and moral behavior: to never lie, cheat, or steal; to abide by an uncompromising code of integrity; to respect human dignity; and to have respect and concern for each other. It represents the maturity, dedication, trust, and dependability that commit Marines to act responsibly, be accountable for their actions, fulfill their obligations, and hold others accountable for their actions.*

Courage *The heart of our Core Values, courage is the mental, moral, and physical strength ingrained in Marines that sees them through the challenges of combat and the mastery of fear, and to do what is right, to adhere to a higher standard of personal conduct, to lead by example, and to make tough decisions under stress and pressure. It is the inner strength that enables a Marine to take that extra step.*

Commitment *This is the spirit of determination and dedication within members of a force of arms that leads to professionalism and mastery of the art of war. It promotes the highest order of discipline for unit and self and is the ingredient that instills dedication to Corps and country 24 hours a day, pride, concern for others, and an unrelenting determination to achieve a standard of excellence in every endeavor. Commitment is the value that establishes the Marine as the warrior and citizen others strive to emulate.*